

(c) *Notice of completion and retention of records.* A notice of completion of review shall be conveyed in writing to CSREES either as part of the submitted proposal or prior to the issuance of an award, at the option of CSREES. The written notice constitutes certification by the applicant that a review in compliance with these regulations has occurred. Applicants are not required to submit results of the review to CSREES; however, proper documentation of the review process and results should be retained by the applicant.

(d) *Renewal and supplemental grants.* Review by the grantee is not automatically required for renewal or supplemental grants as defined in § 3400.6. A subsequent grant award will require a new review if, according to CSREES, either the funded project has changed significantly, other scientific discoveries have affected the project, or the need for the project has changed. Note that a new review is necessary when applying for another standard or continuation grant after expiration of the grant term.

#### **§ 3400.21 Scientific peer review for research activities.**

Scientific peer review is an evaluation of a proposed project for technical quality and relevance to regional or national goals performed by experts with the scientific knowledge and technical skills to conduct the proposed research work. Peer reviewers may be selected from an applicant organization or from outside the organization, but shall not include principals, collaborators or others involved in the preparation of the application under review.

#### **§ 3400.22 Merit review for education and extension activities.**

Merit review is an evaluation of a proposed project or elements of a proposed program whereby the technical quality and relevance to regional or national goals are assessed. The merit review shall be performed by peers and other individuals with expertise appropriate to evaluate the proposed project. Merit reviewers may not include principals, collaborators or others involved in the preparation of the application under review.

### **Subpart D—Annual Reports**

#### **§ 3400.23 Annual reports.**

(a) *Reporting requirement.* The recipient shall submit an annual report describing the results of the research, extension, or education activity and the merit of the results.

(b) *Report type and content.* Unless otherwise stipulated, grant recipients will have met the reporting requirement under this subpart by complying with the reporting requirements as set forth in the terms and conditions of the grant at the time of award.

[64 FR 34104, June 24, 1999]

## **PART 3401—RANGELAND RESEARCH GRANTS PROGRAM**

### **Subpart A—General**

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- 3401.3 Eligibility requirements.
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### **Subpart B—Scientific Peer Review of Research Applications for Funding**

- 3401.12 Establishment and operation of peer review groups.
- 3401.13 Composition of peer review groups.
- 3401.14 Conflicts of interest.
- 3401.15 Availability of information.
- 3401.16 Proposal review.
- 3401.17 Review criteria.

AUTHORITY: Section 1470 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3316).

SOURCE: 61 FR 27753, May 31, 1996, unless otherwise noted.

### **Subpart A—General**

#### **§ 3401.1 Applicability of regulations of this part.**

(a) The regulations of this part apply to rangeland research grants awarded